

## Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 AGR-10 IGA-01 COME-00

OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SY-05

ORM-01 SR-02 IO-10 CU-04 /111 W  
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R 290310Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 044

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 5672

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EAID, CB

SUBJ: PROGRESS REPORT NO. 6: TITLE II RICE PROGRAM - 640,000

BENEFIT FROM FREE RICE PROGRAM

REF: PHNOM PENH 5573

1. SUMMARY: THE INCREASED RICE RATION OF 300 GRAMS PER DAY PER PERSON, CONSISTING LARGELY OF FREE TITLE II RICE, REACHED OVER 38,000 REFUGEE FAMILIES (OVER 190,000 PERSONS) THROUGH MARCH 22. THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES BEGUN AFTER APPROVAL OF THE TITLE II PROGRAMS TO BENEFIT THE NEEDY, ANOTHER NEARLY 450,000 PERSONS RECEIVED RICE IN SOME FASHION OR SOUP WITH RICE ADDED; OF THIS TOTAL A LITTLE OVER 100,000 RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FOR THE FIRST TIME. WHILE THESE PROGRAMS PROGRESS, THE CENSUS OF THE CITY'S POOR CONTINUES. END SUMMARY.

2. THE CAMBODIAN MINISTER OF REFUGEES CALLED THE U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TOGETHER ON MARCH 26 TO HEAR REPORTS ON THEIR TITLE II RICE ACTIVITIES TO DATE. DURING THE TWO-WEEK PERIOD ENDING MARCH 22, THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES DISTRIBUTED DRY RICE TO SOME 38,519 REFUGEE FAMILIES OR ABOUT 193,000 PERSONS IN PHNOM PENH AND ADJACENT

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PROVINCES. THESE DISTRIBUTIONS WERE BASED ON REGULAR

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED BY THE AGENCIES PRIOR TO APPROVAL OF THE TITLE II RICE PROGRAM. ABOUT 14,400 OF THESE FAMILIES (NEARLY 72,000 PERSONS) RECEIVED TITLE I OR LOCAL RICE PURCHASED BEFORE TITLE II RICE BECAME AVAILABLE; HOWEVER, THE RATION RECEIVED WAS AT THE INCREASED LEVEL OF 300 GRAMS (FORMERLY 150 GRAMS) PER DAY PER PERSON.

3. IN THE NEW PROGRAMS DIRECTED TOWARD FEEDING THE NEEDY, THE NUMBERS OF PERSONS REACHED VARIED ACCORDING TO THE TYPE OF ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY THE INDIVIDUAL AGENCIES. CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE CONVERTED ITS SOUP KITCHEN OPERATION TO USE OF TITLE II RICE AND DAILY DISTRIBUTIONS INCREASED FROM ABOUT 26,000 (BEFORE TITLE II) TO 30,000 PERSONS. FOR THE TWO-WEEK PERIOD, APPROXIMATELY 400,000 PERSONS BENEFITTED FROM THE PROGRAM, 56,000 OF WHOM RECEIVED SUCH FOOD FOR THE FIRST TIME. THE COOKED RICE PROGRAM, WHICH PROVIDES 150 GRAMS OF RICE PER PERSON IN A PLASTIC BAG, STARTED ON MARCH 8 FOR 420 PERSONS AND AFTER TWO WEEKS WAS REACHING 3,000 PERSONS PER DAY. CRS ALSO MADE DISTRIBUTION TO NEARLY 2,500 NEEDY PERSONS BASED ON CITY CENSUS DATA PROVIDED BY THE REFUGEE MINISTRY. WORLD VISION RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS, WORKING THROUGH ITS PROGRAM OF OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT AT CLINICS IN THE CITY, GAVE A WEEKLY RICE ALLOWANCE TO 5,263 PERSONS, FAMILY MEMBERS OF PATIENTS. THE AGENCY ALSO DISTRIBUTED RICE TO 190 WIDOWS, REGISTERED WITH THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS ASSOCIATION, AND TO NEARLY 500 ORPHANS IN THREE ORPHANAGES. USING STATISTICS FROM THE CITY CENSUS, WVRO PROVIDED A WEEK'S RICE SUPPLY TO 27,420 PERSONS IN TWO DISTRICTS OF THE CITY. CARE BEGAN DRY RICE DISTRIBUTION ON MARCH 22 USING CENSUS DATA AND REACHED OVER 5,600 PERSONS WITH A TWO-WEEK SUPPLY OF RICE. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS IS NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAMS FOR THE NEEDY UPON INSTRUCTIONS FROM GENEVA, BUT IS EXPANDING ITS REFUGEE DISTRIBUTIONS BY ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADDITIONAL CAMPS FROM OTHER VOLAGS.

4. MINISTER KONG ORN REPORTED ON THE PROGRAMS TO  
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IDENTIFY THE NEEDY. THE CENSUS OF THE CITY IS PRODUCING STEADY RESULTS. HAVING DIVIDED THE CITY INTO FOUR DISTRICTS -- ORIGINALLY ONE FOR EACH VOLUNTARY AGENCY, BUT NOW CHANGED TO THREE BECAUSE OF THE ICRC DECISION -- THE CENSUS TEAMS ARE COMPILING LISTS THAT CONTAIN THE HOUSE NUMBER OF EACH NEEDY FAMILY, THE NAME OF THE FAMILY HEAD, AND THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN (GROUPED AS 0-6, 7-15, AND 16 AND OVER). DATA COMPILED THROUGH

MARCH 22 ON 23,500 FAMILIES (117,500 PERSONS) WAS  
SUPPLIED TO VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ON A DAILY BASIS AS  
COMPLETED. OVER 35,000 PERSONS HAD RECEIVED RICE AS  
A RESULT OF THE PROGRAM, AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ARE  
WORKING ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTIONS INTO THEIR SCHEDULES  
AS THEY RECEIVE THE DATA. THE PROCEDURE IS FOR THE  
AGENCY TO CONTACT THE WARD CHIEF, WHO THEN ANNOUNCES  
TO THE FAMILIES CONCERNED THE DISTRIBUTION TO TAKE  
PLACE TWO DAYS LATER AT WARD HEADQUARTERS. DEPENDING  
ON THEIR OWN JUDGMENT, AGENCIES ARE PROVIDING ONE OR  
TWO WEEKS' SUPPLY OF RICE PER FAMILY, THE CENSUS  
LISTS SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR DISTRIBUTION. (NOTE:  
REFTEL PROVIDES DATA FROM THE CENSUS AS OF MARCH 26;  
THE INFORMATION BEING REPORTED UPON IN THIS MESSAGE  
WAS PROVIDED AT THE MARCH 26 MEETING AND REFLECTED  
COMPILATIONS ONLY THROUGH MARCH 22.)  
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## Message Attributes

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